



INSIGHTS

108th Congress

January 21, 2003

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[Weekly Summary](#)

[New Legislation](#)

[Committee Activity](#)

[Administration](#)
[Initiatives](#)

[House](#)

[Senate](#)

[FY 2003](#)

[Hearings Schedule](#)

[Appropriations Chart](#)

INSIGHTS is prepared expressly for the Department of Energy's Office of Federal Energy Management Programs (FEMP). The purpose of **INSIGHTS** is to provide FEMP management staff with timely information on legislative activities relevant to the program. **INSIGHTS** is prepared for FEMP by Energetics, Incorporated, (202) 479-2748.

I. WEEKLY SUMMARY

CONGRESSIONAL SCHEDULE

HOUSE

During the week of January 20, the House will be in recess.

SENATE

The Senate is scheduled to resume debate on *H.J. Res. 2* – an omnibus package to advance FY 2003 appropriations; the House approved their version of the bill on January 8.

FY 2003 APPROPRIATIONS

Continuing Resolution – *H.J. Res. 2* – the pending \$385.9 billion Omnibus bill, which combines the 11 remaining FY 2003 funding bills into one bill, was debated on the Senate floor last week. Majority Leader Bill Frist (R/TN) told members he would keep the Senate in session during a previously scheduled recess this week if the Senate did not complete work on the bill. His goal was to discourage the attachment of any amendments to the bill to ensure passage by close of business on Friday, January 17.

Progress on the bill slowed at the end of last week and the Senate resumes consideration of the bill on Tuesday, January 21. Democrats are expected to attach a number of environmental and energy -related amendments to the bill. For example, Democrats and some Republicans will try to restore, through amendments, approximately \$10 billion in funding cuts in *H.J. Res. 2*, including funding for Homeland Security, energy, and environmental activities. Funding reductions for energy programs included Army Corps of Engineer construction projects.

Under the Interior and Related Agencies account of *H.J. Res. 2*, DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy is expected to receive approximately \$29 million below the FY 2002 funding level.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES/VOTES

No activities of interest to report.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

II. COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

HOUSE

FY 2003 Appropriations for Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary On January 8, subcommittee chair, Frank Wolf (R/VA), introduced *H.R. 247*, which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations. No further action has been taken. Provisions of interest include:

Department of Justice

- U.S. Marshals Service - \$15.126 million for planning, constructing, renovating, equipping, and maintaining prisoner-holding space in U.S. courthouses and Federal buildings.
- Federal Bureau of Investigation - \$1.250 million for construction or acquisition, conversion and extension of Federally owned buildings, and preliminary planning and design projects.
- Immigration and Naturalization Service - \$267.137 million for planning, construction, renovation, equipping, and maintenance of buildings and facilities.

Department of Commerce

- National Institutes of Standards and Technology - \$54.212 million for construction of new research facilities and renovation and maintenance of existing facilities.
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration – Unspecified funding for procurement, acquisition, and construction of capital assets.

Department of State

- Embassy Security, Construction, and Maintenance - \$500 million for the Harry S. Truman Building and the Diplomatic Security Construction Program.

FY 2003 Appropriations for Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education As reported in the January 15 issue of this newsletter, *H.R. 246* was introduced by subcommittee chair, Ralph Regula (R/OH) on January 9 and referred to the Committee on Appropriations; no further action has been taken. Provisions of interest include:

Department of Labor

- Training and Employment Services – Unspecified funding for the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and other facilities and for the construction, rehabilitation, and acquisition of Job Corps Centers.

Department of Health and Human Services

- National Institutes of Health - \$296.1 million for the construction, renovation, and acquisition of equipment for facilities of or those facilities used by the agency.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

SENATE

No activities of interest to report.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

III. STATUS OF FY03 APPROPRIATIONS BILLS

(In Billions)

HOUSE

SENATE

<i>Jurisdiction/ FY 2003 Budget Request</i>	<i>302(b) Allocation ns/ Approved Funding Level</i>	<i>Bill No.</i>	<i>Full Cmte.</i>	<i>Floor</i>	<i>Conf.</i>	<i>302(b) Allocation s/Approved Funding Level</i>	<i>Bill No.</i>	<i>Full Cmte .</i>	<i>Floor</i>	<i>Conf.</i>
Agriculture \$17.051	\$ 17.601	HR 5263	7/11	7/26		\$ 17.980	S 2801	7/25		
Commerce \$ 40.333	\$ 40.726	-	7/18			\$ 43.475	S 2778	7/18		
Defense \$356.598	\$354.7	HR 5010	6/24	6/27	10/10	\$ 355.1	S Rpt 107- 213	7/18	8/1	10/16
Energy and Water Development \$25.149	\$ 26.027	HR 5431	9/05			\$ 26.300	S 27844	7/24		
Interior \$18.953	\$ 19.8	HR 5093	7/9	7/17		\$ 19.35	S. 2708	6/27		
Labor / HHS \$129.902	\$129.902	HR 5320				\$133.988	S 2766	7/18		
Military Construction \$ 9.541	\$ 10.083	HR 5011	6/24	6/27	10/2	\$ 10.622	S 2709	6/27	7/18	10/11
Transportation \$ 19.851	\$ 19.411	-	10/1			\$ 21.1	S 2808	7/25		
Treasury \$ 17.960	\$ 18.501	HR 5120	7/9	7/24		\$ 18.501	S 2740	7/16		
VA/HUD \$ 92.518	\$ 90.9	-	10/9			\$ 91.434	S 2797	7/25		
Continuing Resolution H J Res 1 P.L. 108-2 (1/10/03)) Omnibus Legislation H.J. Res. 2				1/8/03					Ongoing Debate	

IV. NEW LEGISLATION

(Note: Once a new bill is introduced, the Government Printing Office generally requires from several days to one week to make the bill available in print)

HOUSE

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
H.R. 109	Residential Solar Energy Tax Credit Act	January 7, 2003	John Hayworth (R/AZ)	Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
	Provisions of Interest:	Amends the <i>Internal Revenue Code of 1986</i> , to provide a tax credit for an amount equal to the sum of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 15 percent of the qualified photovoltaic property expenditures made by the taxpayer during such year, not to exceed \$2,000 for each system of property; and ➤ 15 percent of the qualified solar water heating property expenditures made by the taxpayer during the taxable year, not to exceed \$2,000 for each system of property. 		
H.R. 125	No Short Title	January 7, 2003	Rush Holt (D/NJ)	Referred to the Committee on Science
	Provisions of Interest:	Reestablishes the Office of Technology Assessment. Authorizes for the program \$20,000,000 for fiscal years 2004-2009.		

SENATE

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
S. 139	Climate Stewardship Act of 2003	January 9, 2003	Joseph Lieberman (D/CT)	Referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

Number	Short title	Date	Sponsor	Status
	Provisions of Interest:			
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Directs the National Science Foundation to establish a scholarship program for post-secondary students studying global climate change. ➤ Directs the Department of Commerce to conduct a study of technology transfer barriers, best practices, and outcomes of technology transfer activities at Federal laboratories related to the licensing and commercialization of energy efficient technologies. ➤ Amends the <i>Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980</i> to provide a 25 percent tax rebate for the development of climate change or energy efficient technologies. ➤ Amends the <i>Global Change Research Act of 1990</i>, to require the Director of Science and Technology Policy develop a list of priority areas for research and development on climate change that are not being addressed by Federal agencies. ➤ Requires the Secretary of Commerce to initiate a program to develop, with technical assistance from Federal agencies, innovative standards and measurement technologies to calculate greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture, forestry and other land use practices; transportation; facilities using remote sensing technology; and any other greenhouse gas emission or reductions for which no accurate or reliable measurement technology exists. ➤ Requires the National Institute of Standards and Technology to develop a program to support the implementation of new “green” manufacturing technologies and techniques by the more than 380,000 small manufacturers. ➤ Establishes a national greenhouse gas database and registry that will consist of an inventory of greenhouse gas emissions and a registry of greenhouse gas emission reductions and increases in sequestrations. ➤ Establishes tradeable allowances and fuel economy standard credits. ➤ Allows individuals to receive credit in the current calendar year for anticipated reductions in emissions in a future calendar year and to use the credit in lieu of a tradeable allowance to meet the requirements of this <i>Act</i> for the current calendar year. ➤ Establishes the Climate Change Credit Corporation to receive and manage tradeable allowances allocated to it.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

V. ADMINISTRATION INITIATIVES

Federal Deficit On January 15, Mitch Daniels, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget predicted that the Federal deficit would reach \$200 billion in FY 2003 and \$300 billion in FY 2004. The estimates, which include the cost of the President’s proposed tax plan, would be approximately 2 to 3 percent of the U.S. gross domestic product. Director Daniels also said that he expects the deficit to continue over a period of ten years. His remarks were made in response to questions he received after a speech at a U.S. Chamber of Commerce meeting in Washington, D.C.

Comments on H.J. Res. 2 – Omnibus Funding Bill On January 17, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released a statement regarding the omnibus bill, which is currently under consideration in the Senate. OMB states:

Spending restraint is critical to encouraging continued economic growth, and the Senate

has made great progress in moving toward enactment of bills that meet the needs of the country...However, a few significant problems remain to be dealt with before the bill would be acceptable to the President...The Administration strongly opposes amendments to add new extraneous spending to the package....The Administration believes that the bill before the Senate is a substantial step forward and supports Senate passage of the bill, but a number of changes are still needed as noted above.

Issues being challenged by the Administration include funding for Homeland Security, education, highway transportation, statutory restrictions and provisions, Housing and Urban Development, among others.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)

VI. HEARINGS SCHEDULE

HOUSE – COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

There are no hearings of interest to report.

HOUSE – AUTHORIZATIONS/OVERSIGHT

There are no hearings of interest to report.

SENATE – COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

There are no hearings of interest to report.

SENATE – AUTHORIZATIONS/OVERSIGHT

There are no hearings of interest to report.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE NEGOTIATIONS/FLOOR VOTES

There are no activities of interest to report.

[Back to Table of Contents](#)